

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY IO/CMD:RHINES:PHB

APPROVED BY IO:JWMCDONALD, JR.

IO/CMD:MTANK

EB/GCP:HCBLACK

AID/PPC:KJAY

IO/CMD:WWWOODBURY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: 29TH UNGA: ITEM 42: DRAFT RESOLUTION ON DEVELOPING
ISLAND COUNTRIES, L.1354

1. DRAFT CONTAINS TWO PROVISIONS WHICH WOULD REQUIRE US
NEGATIVE VOTE. COMMENTS ON THESE AND ONE OTHER DIFFICULTY
WITH TEXT FOLLOW:

2. PREAMB PARA 2: TEXT AS PROPOSED IS ACCEPTABLE, BUT IT
DOES NOT ACCURATELY REFLECT PROGRAM OF ACTION. IT WOULD
APPEAR THAT SPONSORS INTEND TO GIVE SOME BASIS FOR REQUEST
IN OP PARA 2, BUT FACT IS THAT SPECIAL PROGRAM (PART X,
PREAMB PARA C, OF PROGRAM OF ACTION) MAKES NO RPT NO REF-
ERENCE TO ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. DRAFT WOULD BE
CONSISTENT WITH PARA 2 (I) OF PART II OF THE PROGRAM IF IT
WERE AMENDED TO READ: "CALLS UPON THE INTERNATIONAL COM-
MUNITY TO FINANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES,
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WITH PRIORITY TO THE LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND-LOCKED AND

ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO THE COUNTRIES MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY ECONOMIC CRISES AND NATURAL CALAMITIES." (CONCLUDING PHRASE "LEADING TO SERIOUS RETARDATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES" IS NOT IN PROGRAM.)

3. OP PARA 1: BECAUSE OF INCLUSION OF PROGRAM OF ACTION, WE CANNOT ACCEPT UNQUALIFIED CALL TO IMPLEMENT "THE AFOREMENTIONED RESOLUTIONS." DELEGATION SHOULD SEEK TO AMEND THE CONCLUSION OF THE PARA TO READ "TO INTENSIFY THEIR EFFORTS WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION, ETC."

4. OP PARA 2: EFFECT OF THIS PARAGRAPH IS, FIRST, TO ADD THE ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND, SECOND, TO INSTRUCT SEC GEN TO PROVIDE BENEFITS TO THEM AS A GROUP. NEITHER OF THESE IS ACCEPTABLE TO US. DEL WILL RECALL THAT US IN AD HOC COMMITTEE OF 36 HAS CONSISTENTLY OPPOSED DEFINING BY CATEGORIES WHAT COUNTRIES WILL BE BENEFICIARIES OF SPECIAL FUND. PERIODIC DETERMINATIONS ON ELIGIBILITY WOULD RATHER BE MADE BY GOVERNORS OF SPECIAL FUND. SIMILAR REASONING APPLIES TO EMERGENCY OPERATION WHERE SYG RETAINS FLEXABILITY FOR SPECIAL ACCOUNT. WE FEEL THAT LANGUAGE OF SPECIAL PROGRAM RESOLUTION ALREADY GOES TOO FAR IN THIS REGARD. SINCE CERTAIN DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES ARE ALREADY ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S PROVISIONAL LIST OF MSA'S, DELEGATION SHOULD SEEK TO HAVE PARA AMENDED BY INSERTING THE WORDS "MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED" BEFORE THE WORDS "DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES." INGERSOLL

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